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VOL. XXXVIII.

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS ITEMS

News of Interest Gleaned From All Sections of the State and Arranged for Busy Readers

MORE TROUBLE AHEAD.

The Seminole Receivers Enter Suit Against the Southern Life for \$325,000.

Alleging that the transaction was conceived and consummated in fraud of rights and interests of the stockholders in the Seminole Securities Company and that the officers of the Southern Life Insurance Company and its agents in the transaction had conspired to defraud and participated in the fraud, the receivers of the Seminole Securities Company, F. G. Thompson and others, have filed a bill in the United States court here asking that the whole transaction between the Seminole Company and the Southern Life Insurance Company be annulled and the Seminole Company reimbursed the \$325,000 paid to the Southern Life by the Seminole officers in the deal that has stirred a sensation in the North and South.

Increase of School Term.

Representative Garrison in the Legislature received a good bit of conversation on Wednesday. Garrison explained that his bill provided that if any school with a term of 20 weeks or less could raise an amount equal to one month's salary paid the teacher, a State salary would be given for the remainder of the year.

Count of the large array of bills introduced in the Legislature, but few spectators were allowed in court, as the judge had given orders that the aisles must be kept clear, which order was well enforced by Sheriff J. G. Long. At about 11:20 the calling of the witnesses for the defense was concluded by Mr. V. E. DePass, who is now associated with the counsel for the defense, which as at present is Mr. James Munro, Townsend & Townsend and Col. George Johnstone of Newberry. Five minutes later counsel for both sides held a joint consultation. In a few minutes the State counsel came out and then Jones had a conference with his attorneys, while the other side had a conference with the family connections of the deceased woman.

It was shortly after 1 o'clock when Col. Geo. Johnstone made the motion to quash the indictment because it did not specify the kind of poison administered or the nature of the bruises alleged to have been on Mrs. Jones' person. This motion, which was perhaps the feature of the morning session, and the preliminary skirmish in this great legal battle, was overruled by Judge Memminger. Dr. Jeter was the principal witness. He testified that Mrs. Jones came by her death from strychnine poison.

Locating Post Office.

Darlington, Special.—Major Fred Brackett, superintendent of the site division of the treasury department, spent Monday in Darlington looking at the proposed sites for the new post office building, which the town is to have, and gathering the necessary information on which to base his recommendations. There are several of these lots in different localities and private interests in and around them have been putting forth strenuous efforts in their favor, and await with interest the results.

Uniform Weight Corn.

Aiken, Special.—At the meeting of the Richland delegation Tuesday representatives from the upper county asked that a law requiring a uniform weight of corn be passed. At present, it is stated, the measures do not agree to change this for the farmer. The delegation is under consideration.

Men Instantly Killed.

Aiken, Special.—Three men were killed when Seaboard freight trains Nos. 20 and 21 collided head on six miles north of Aiken early Wednesday morning. The dead: Engineer Clyde Moore, L. H. Nickles and a colored man.

Forest Fire Near Aiken.

Aiken, Special.—A forest fire of large extent has been raging north of Aiken. It is stated, several thousand acres of valuable timber lands have been burned over. The damage is not known, but will probably reach many thousands of dollars. The fire originated on Saturday, when the wind got blowing a fierce gale, and soon got beyond all control. It is still burning, but not with such fury as Saturday and Sunday. The fire is said to have originated through the carelessness of some unknown hunters. Four small houses have been burned.

To Build New Church.

Aiken, Special.—Rev. J. B. Derrick of Augusta, pastor in charge of the Lutheran congregation of Aiken, has appointed a finance committee and a building committee to erect at once a new church building on the lot recently purchased for the purpose on Pendleton street. The definite plans of the two committees have not yet been formed, but it is stated that a splendid church will be erected.

A Killing at Walterboro.

Walterboro, Special.—An unfortunate shooting scrape occurred at Walterboro, about four miles from town, on Wednesday night. A man was killed and a woman injured.

THE S. C. LEGISLATURE

Doings of Palmetto Lawmakers Told in Brief.

In a session of 21-2 hours Tuesday night the Senate voted down Senator Carlisle's bill.

There was a concurrent resolution, which was adopted, received from the house, asking that the United States congress be urged to pass laws in regard to the whiskey traffic in conformity with the State laws.

A bill has been introduced in the senate by Senator Sullivan, which has attracted attention from a number of paint dealers throughout the country.

It requires the careful labeling of paints showing the ingredients in their make up.

The following passed their third reading:

Mr. Weston—A bill to provide for the payment of water used in the public institutions and buildings of the State located in Columbia; a bill to regulate the assessment of municipal license taxes of insurance companies; and a bill to amend an act relating to borrowing money by municipalities.

Mr. Weston—A bill to enable cities of 10,000 inhabitants or more to fix the rates and charges for the supply of water, gas and electricity, furnished by any firm, person or corporation to any such city and the inhabitants thereof.

Mr. Graydon's bill to fix the place of trial in all actions to recover the penalty fixed by statute for delay, loss or damage to freight by common carriers.

Mr. Kelley—A bill to make it a misdemeanor to publish the name of any maid, woman or woman-child upon whom a rape or an assault with intent to ravish has been committed.

Mr. Wharton's bill to incorporate the Green Female college.

Upon the assembling of the house Mr. C. A. Smith presented resolutions of respect to the memory of Representative T. A. Clarke, of Florence, who died Monday night.

The resolutions expressed the profound sorrow of the house and sympathy with the family and ordered the sergeant-at-arms to procure a suitable floral tribute and that a committee of five be sent to represent the house at the funeral. Messrs. Ayer, C. A. Smith, W. D. Bryan, Dingle and Bunch were appointed.

The Senate on Wednesday discussed the question of ballot for associate justice and passed the following:

Senator Earle's bill as to pollution of water courses.

Senator Montgomery's bill to amend the high school act.

Senator Sullivan's bill to require public ginners and public warehouse companies to mark bales of cotton ginned or stored.

The following new bills were offered:

Mr. Lide—To amend section 1933, code of laws, 1902, volume 1, relating to incorporation of towns.

Mr. Otts—To amend section 268, volume 1, code of laws, 1902, relating to returning property for taxation.

Mr. Carlisle—A bill relating to telephone charges.

Mr. Bass—To repeal an act entitled "An act to amend an act, approved 21st day of February, A. D. 1906, by changing the time and including Mongolian pheasants and wild turkey, approved 21st day of February, 1903."

Mr. Lide—To regulate the statistics of leaf tobacco sold upon the floors of leaf tobacco warehouses of South Carolina.

Mr. Graydon—A joint resolution proposing to amend section 22, article 5, of the constitution of the State of South Carolina, relating to jury trials.

The House passed the following on their third reading:

Mr. Richards—To repeal section 3059, volume 1, code of laws of South Carolina, 1902, relating to the lien law.

Mr. Wheatley—To authorize the appointment of a commission to erect a causeway over the swamp on Coosawatchie river and build a bridge over said river.

Mr. McColl—To authorize the town of Clio to issue bonds in aid of the North Carolina and South Carolina railroad.

Many bills of local nature were passed upon. The House held a night session at which the following actions were taken:

Mr. K. P. Smith's bill, abolishing the department of agriculture, commerce and immigration, and Mr. Richards' bill, amending the act creating the department, were made special orders.

Without debate, Mr. Ayer's bill, requiring county treasurers to deposit funds in chartered banks, passed to third reading.

Mr. Harmon of Newberry had the bill introduced by his brother, Mr. Harmon of Richland, last year, forbidding the manufacture and sale of other than safety matches in South Carolina. The bill went to third reading, after some little debate, and an amendment providing that the law should go into effect in October.

Mr. Mann's bill, making it a misdemeanor for any baggage or express agent to wilfully damage or break open any baggage or express, went to third reading.

The House also passed without debate Mr. Brice's bill providing for the following additional changes in the banking laws.

"Every bank or banking institution receiving deposits shall at all times have on hand at least an equal to 15 per cent of the deposits."

shall be the duty of the State bank examiner to enforce this and the preceding section."

Mr. Brice also had passing his bill limiting the time for recording mortgages to 20 days. The act would go into effect in May.

Mr. Cosgrove's bill, authorizing the insurance commissioner to appoint fire department officials to investigate fires, also passed to third reading.

Mr. Dixon's bill, naming the agents or collectors of fraternal societies as agents, in order to fix their responsibility, passed.

Some Sunday lunch laws then occupied the time of the House, and finally went to third reading, being as follows:

Section 1. That from and after the approval of this act no municipal corporation in this State shall have the right to pass any ordinance prohibiting hotel and restaurant keepers or other persons from serving meals or lunches to passengers on trains within the limits of such municipal corporation on Sunday, and all such ordinances heretofore passed are hereby declared illegal and void."

The Senate on Thursday took seven ballots for associate justice without effect. Among the new bills are the following:

Mr. Craft—Relating to compensation allowed Confederate veterans for property furnished to the Confederacy without pay.

Mr. Christensen—To further provide for winding up the affairs of the State dispensary and for the sale of the real estate heretofore used in conducting the dispensary.

Mr. Carlisle—To repeal sections 325 to 331, inclusive, of civil code volume 1, 1902, relating to tax on incomes.

Mr. Otts—To submit State prohibition and county dispensary to the qualified electors of the State at a special election.

Mr. Griffin—Providing for the sale of infirmity for Confederate veterans and disposition of proceeds of said estate.

The House killed the Rucker bill, which would prohibit any towns passing an ordinance against the sale of lunches on Sunday.

Killed the bill reducing the legal rate of interest to 6 per cent.

Killed the bill for a commission to inquire into the advisability of the State going into the phosphate business.

The new bills offered embraced those of Mr. Bowman—To amend section 1935, code of laws of South Carolina, 1902, volume 1, with reference to forfeiture of charter of certain towns.

Mr. Tobias—To amend an act to incorporate certain religious and charitable societies.

Mr. Wade—To amend an act to declare the law in reference to and to regulate the manufacture, sale, use, consumption of alcoholic liquors, so far as the same may relate to Aiken county.

Mr. Dick—To amend section 1223, volume 1, code, 1902, by forbidding nepotism in employment of professors or other employees of the institutions of learning.

Mr. McMahon—To amend section 192 of the criminal code of 1902, relating to the breaking and entering of railroad cars.

Mr. McMahon—To amend section 1989 of volume 1, code of laws, relating to borrowing money by municipalities.

Mr. Dixon—Conferring right of action against telegraph companies doing business in this State for injuries to person and property and for mental anguish.

Mr. Foster—To fix the liability of common carriers by railroads.

Mr. Ayer—To require all rent notes, agreements and rent receipts to be recorded in office of register mesne conveyance.

The Senate on Friday passed the bill of Senator Otts as to costs in cases in the original jurisdiction of the supreme court, with an amendment.

Considered again Senator Appelt's measure to provide for the appointment of a commissioner to sell the stock of goods of Clarendon county dispensary.

Placed again upon the calendar Senator Croft's resolution as to associate justices.

Among the new bills of importance were:

Mr. Mauldin—To restrict the use of taxes, collected by municipal officers to the purpose for which levied and prescribed.

Mr. Christensen—To provide certain conditions to be imposed upon insurance companies of like character for the privilege of entering and doing business in this State.

Mr. Bass—Submitting the repeal of those two certain acts, approved December 24, 1891, and December 22, 1892, respectively, and known as acts Nos. 988 and 272 and found in volume 20 at page 1488 and 21 at page 360, respectively.

Mr. Mauldin—To require electric street railway companies to affix inclosed vestibules to their cars.

Mr. Mauldin—To require a production of State registration certificates and tax receipts to register for city or town elections.

Mr. Otts—Concerning notaries public who are stockholders, directors, officers or employees of banks or other corporations.

Mr. Earle—Relating to actions for the recovery of personal property.

Mr. Walker—To empower the comptroller general of the State to make certain abatements in assessed value of certain rice lands in the county of Georgetown.

New bills of general interest in the House were:

Mr. Bodie—Relating to ponding water in any stream in this State.

fight was Saturday fired in the State senate. Upon Senator Appelt's bill to impose a license of \$5,000 upon liquor drummers the discussion assumed wide proportions, reaching out to the other prohibition questions before the legislature this year. With barely a quorum present Senator Clifton of Sumter held the floor for nearly two hours, speaking first upon the question of the bill and then upon the question to indefinitely postpone.

Senator Kelley had succeeded in having his bill to repeal the lien law which has passed the house, made a special order for Wednesday after third reading bills. Senator Graydon had had his bill to regulate the charges for carrying passengers on railroads in this State made a special order for Thursday. Senator Lide had brought about the same result for his measure on State-wide prohibition or was about to do so when there arose a storm of protest against making any bill a special order. The great fight on this question arose on Senator Otts' bill to prohibit the manufacture, sale, etc., of whiskies, etc., known as the prohibition bill. It had been made a special order after a motion to table this motion had been lost, but after some more discussion Senator Hardie's motion to discharge all special orders prevailed and these bills are now at their regular places upon the calendar.

The case bill was Senator Appelt's bill to provide for a license of \$5,000 in each county of the State for the conducting of the business of soliciting whiskey orders.

Senator Appelt explained the provisions of his bill. Under the present law whiskey drummers can come in and solicit orders and are not licensed. However, they can not sell the whiskey in this State nor can they deliver the goods here.

Among the bills introduced were these of general interest:

Mr. Walker—To amend section 2383 and 2384, code of laws, with reference to renunciation of dower.

Mr. Weston—To amend section 948, code of laws of South Carolina, volume 1, relating to the probate of deeds, beyond the limits of this State.

In the House the following were among the bills introduced Saturday:

Mr. Ridgely—To pay to Wm. F. Bowe \$171.85 for services rendered in connection with the State house litigation.

Mr. Way—To amend an act entitled "An act to declare the law in reference to and to regulate the manufacture, sale, and use of alcoholic liquors and beverages."

Mr. Nicholson—To amend sections 2383 and 2384, code of laws of South Carolina, 1902, volume 1, with reference to renunciation of dower and the record thereof.

The House put upon third reading numerous bills of the uncontented class and cleared the calendar of much of its burden. The following are a few of general interest:

Senator Johnson—Allowing beneficiary student of the Citadel to be relieved of the obligation to teach in certain cases.

Mr. Carey—Allowing for testimony of female witnesses in assault cases.

Senator Wharton—Incorporating the Thorneville orphanage board.

Mr. McMahon—Fixing the charge for transcribing testimony by the stenographer of this circuit.

Mr. Lawson—Amending the act for the protection of quail.

Senator Wharton—Incorporating the Greenville Female College.

Seven Dead in Alabama.

Birmingham, Ala., Special.—Mayor George H. Brier, of Cullman, Ala., wires that seven people are known to have been killed in that county Friday afternoon by the cyclone which passed over this section of the State but that wire communication is impossible with the stricken locality.

At Kayosa, a mining camp west of Birmingham on the Southern Railway, five houses were blown down but only one man was injured. A Mr. Logan was killed.

Small Part of Canal Put in Use.

Panama, By Cable.—The Pacific Mail Steamship Company's steamer Newport used on Tuesday for the first time the Pacific entrance to the canal which has been dredged to a depth of 35 feet. President-elect Taft was not present when the Newport started on the trip and there was no ceremony of any kind.

FEMININE NEWS NOTES.

Nearly 20,000 women are employed in Prussia as brickmakers. An eleven-hour day is the rule.

Miss Anne Morgan, daughter of the financier, started a crusade against unsanitary cigar factories.

Sarah Bernhardt was mentioned as one of the women who might play the leading role in Rostand's "Le Chantier."

The clubwomen of Massachusetts are fighting against the movement to lower the milk standard in that State.

Calcutta, because of the high rate of infant mortality, has appointed a female sanitary inspector at \$50 a month.

Mrs. William Gould Brokaw, married a little more than a year, sued for a separation, alleging cruelty and desertion.

Mrs. Russell Saxe and other women of large means have pledged \$60,000 to the cause of woman suffrage in the United States.

Mrs. Russell Saxe slipped and fell in the hallway of her home, No. 632 Fifth avenue, New York City, receiving a slight fracture of the left wrist.

To Bertha Schultz, a young dressmaker in Hamburg, Germany, \$10,000 was bequeathed on condition that she never marries a man engaged in an intellectual occupation.

Miss C. de H. Benest is the first woman driver of a motor omnibus in England. She was the only woman to take the examination for motor engineering recently held in London.

Mrs. Harriet O. Berg is the first woman to make an airplane ascension, and declares that the experience was a very pleasant one, she having gone up with Wilbur Wright. She is an Englishwoman.

Women of fashion and women of the wash, milliners and street sweepers, paid homage to the memory of Father William O'Brien Parlow, of St. Ignace, La. parish, as the late pastor's body lay in state.

Granting the existence of that supposed planet beyond Neptune, its year, astronomer tell us, agrees the New York World, would be equal to about a thousand of our years. What a noise the new planetarians must make when their new year comes round.

TORNADO IN SOUTH

Storms Reach from Texas to Kentucky.

SOUTHERN TOWNS ARE HIT HARD

Severe Rain, Hail, Wind and Electrical Storms Sweep Over Southern States, Killing and Injuring Many and Destroying Property Valued at Hundreds of Thousands of Dollars.

Louisville, Ky., Special.—Death for probably a score of persons, losses of hundreds of thousands of dollars in property and the crippling of many telegraph wires resulted between noon and dusk Friday from a series of small tornadoes which swept the south central States from the Tennessee line to the Texas Panhandle.

The storms were accompanied in most cases by hail, darkness, terrific lightning flashes and sheets of rain.

Most of the towns where loss of life occurred are off the railroads, so that news from them has been coming slowly. Known casualties are:

Stuttgart, Ark.—Mrs. Gerfield and a child of Will Story. Mrs. Story is reported fatally injured.

Sulphur Springs, Texas.—Mrs. James Ardis and Mrs. C. Caldwell, from Rolling Fork, Miss., just before the telephone wires broke word came that four had been killed.

Booth, Miss., reported to Birmingham that six had met death there.

In other towns such as Ennis and Waxahatchie, Tex., and Boscoe, La., many dwellings are said to have been demolished by the wind.

Arkansas and upper Louisiana rice fields were injured to the extent of many thousands of dollars, while the larger cities experienced rains and lightning bolts that made large buildings quiver.

At Chattanooga there was a terrific storm of hail.

Reports from Birmingham state that several persons were killed by a tornado at Cullman, Ala. Friday afternoon.

The home of George Stewart, seven miles east of Hanesville, Ala., was totally destroyed. His 2-day-old child was blown half mile and killed. His 2-year-old child was blown into a grate and probably fatally burned.

Mrs. Stewart was caught under some rafters in the house and so badly injured that she will die. Mrs. Tom Bowner and a child who were in the house were fatally hurt.

Night Firing Tests at Fort Caswell Satisfactory.

Washington, Special.—In tests made at Fort Caswell, N. C., February 1st and 2d of the new system of fire control for rapid-fire guns, the coast artillery corps made an average of 50 per cent of hits in night firing at a moving target at range from 1,700 to 2,000 yards. The projectiles were provided with lighted tracers, and the target, which was 10 feet by 24 feet was illuminated by searchlights. The test was conducted by a 3-inch gun battery and was very satisfactory.

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THE LARGEST WARSHIP

The Battleship Delaware Launched at Newport News Saturday—Description of the Great Sea-Fighter.

Newport News, Va., Special.—The great battleship Delaware was successfully launched from the yards of her builders, the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company Saturday. The launching was witnessed by 5,000 people.

Completed or under construction, of the navy of any foreign country, Delaware surpasses all. She is one of four sister ships authorized by Congress which will form an indomitable North Dakota, being built at Quincy, Mass.; the Florida, which will be built at the New York navy yard, and the Utah, to be built at Camden, N. J.

The Delaware is to carry as heavy armor and as powerful armament as any known vessel of its class; will have a speed of 21 knots, which is believed to be the highest practicable for a vessel of this type and class, and will have the highest practicable radius of action. The arrangements of her main battery guns are such as to permit a broadside fire 25 per cent greater than that of the broadside of any battleship now built, or so far as is known, under construction. Her defensive qualities, other than those dependent upon armor protection, are such as to give the maximum degree of protection to all the vital portions by means of unusually effective compartmental sub-division, so that in conjunction with her armor protection the defensive qualities of this vessel are believed to be distinctly superior to those of any battleship heretofore designed. The hull is protected by a water line belt of armor 8 feet in width, whose maximum thickness is 11 inches. This armor belt gives effective protection to the boilers, machinery and magazine spaces. The side above the main armor belt is protected by armor 7 feet 3 inches wide of a maximum thickness of 10 inches. Above the main armor belt armor shields the side is protected by armor of 5 inches thickness, which affords protection to the smoke pipes, the major portion of the secondary batteries of 5-inch guns and the hull structure.

Mr. Taft Leaves Colon.

Colon, By Cable.—President-elect William H. Taft and party left here at 6 o'clock Sunday evening on board the cruiser North Carolina for New Orleans accompanied by the cruiser Montana. Just previous to embarking Mr. Taft gave out the following:

"I am not prepared to make a statement as to the results of the trip to the isthmus, except to say that we have found the work progressing in a most satisfactory way; the organization better than ever before, the esprit de corps excellent and the determination of all, even the humblest laborer, directed to the building of the canal. I am sure that this trip impressed itself upon every one of the board of visiting engineers as it has upon me."

"With reference to the type of the canal and the continuance of the present plans, the engineers promise that they will be able to hand down their report by the time we leave at New Orleans."

Razor For Suicide.

Asheville, N. C., Special.—Telling wife that he was going downstairs to shave, James M. Hyatt, a prominent business man of this place, Sunday morning shortly after 8 o'clock picked up his razor and other shaving material, went down stairs, locking the doors and slashed his throat with the razor, dying after the act was discovered.

General News in Brief.

Charlottesville, Va., suffered from a disastrous fire on Friday, the 4th. The loss is estimated at \$250,000.